

Today's News - March 15, 2006

It's housing vs. industry in many urban centers. — A new strategy for downtown San Diego, but questions raised. — Congestion pricing for Manhattan could work if planners get over their fear of a sacred cow. — A Chinese city you've probably never heard of is probably the fastest-growing city on earth. — The "elegant austerity" of shacks built by Japan's homeless is attracting international attention. — Washington Nationals' stadium design draws lukewarm reception. — A titanic team for Harrah's Caesars Singapore (beware the Ides of March - and iPort). — Looks like Sudjic won't have much time for writing anymore (that makes us a bit sad). — Cooper-Hewitt expands to a virtual frontier (certainly cheaper than Manhattan real estate). — One we couldn't resist: a "notoriously cheap, arrogant" architect could be the next "Bachelor" (reality TV at its most unreal?).

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[Seeing Factories as Essential Parts: The shape of modern American cities may be changing as urban planners weigh the conflicting merits of housing versus industry.](#)- Los Angeles Times

[Council approves downtown strategy: A new road map for downtown development that calls for more density, affordable housing and parks...](#)- San Diego Union-Tribune

[Congestion Pricing: New York City traffic planners need to be freed from their fear of impinging on the prerogatives of that sacred cow, the American automobile.](#)- Gotham Gazette

[Invisible city: Chongqing is the fastest-growing urban centre on the planet. Its population is already bigger than that of Peru or Iraq...Never heard of it? This is where the pace and scale of urbanisation is probably faster and bigger than anywhere in the world today. This is the Coketown of the early 21st century.](#)- Guardian (UK)

[Japan's homeless fashion shacks into works of art: ...elegant austerity...has turned Japan's most destitute into unwitting purveyors of an emerging art form that's catching the eye of international connoisseurs. \(AP\)](#)- Philadelphia Daily News

[Bland \[Washington Nationals\] stadium's design simply another strikeout: ...engulfed by a dull ensemble of blocky, precast-concrete-and-glass structures...This is retro architecture that harkens back to the 1970s. By Deborah K. Dietsch — HOK Sport; Devroux & Purnell](#)- Washington Times

[A Field of Modest Dreams: The long-awaited ballpark design unveiled yesterday...will create a gorgeous spot to watch the Nationals play baseball....Whether it will become an iconic work of Washington architecture, though, is another question...The answer, unfortunately, is probably not. By Benjamin Forgey \[images, links\]](#)- Washington Post

[Hollywood Icon James Cameron Joins Harrah's-Keppel Caesars Singapore Team — Daniel Libeskind; Peter Marino](#)- Yahoo News

[Deyan Sudjic Appointed Director of London's Design Museum](#)- The Architect's Newspaper (NYC)

[A Curate-Your-Own Museum Web Site: Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum is about to take its Web site where no museum has gone before. By Linda Hales](#)- Washington Post

[Back to the drawing board: Can an architect floor 'em as the next "Bachelor?" NYC gals say no...with a pool of architects — notoriously cheap, arrogant and generally terrible dates, if not altogether gay — as bait, will gals actually bite? It's a move that gives even some architects a good laugh.](#)- NY Daily News

[Second Look: Pavilion and Colonnade Apartments by Mies van der Rohe, 1960: Current news about "starchitects" designing high-rise housing in New York is at an all-time high, but Mies did it across the Hudson River 46 years ago. By Fred Bernstein \[image\]](#)- ArchNewsNow

[Competition winner: Toyo Ito: Taichung Metropolitan Opera House, Taichung City, Taiwan](#)

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